

**Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of)	
)	
Reexamination of Roaming)	
Obligations of Commercial)	WT Docket No. 05-265
Mobile Radio Service Providers)	
)	
Automatic and Manual Roaming)	
Obligations Pertaining to Commercial)	WT Docket No. 00-193
Mobile Radio Services)	

Comments of North Dakota Network Company

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Dated: November 18, 2005

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Introduction

North Dakota Network Company (NDNC) is a common carrier licensed by the FCC to provide wireless Personal Communications Service (PCS) in the State of North Dakota, BTA 299. Currently, NDNC serves approximately 10,000 subscribers in North Dakota under the brand name SRT Wireless.

I. NDNC Seeks Fair and Reasonable Roaming Agreements

The elimination of discriminatory conduct and practices by national Commercial Mobile Radio Service (CMRS) providers is necessary in order for smaller wireless providers to be competitive. Unjust and unreasonable charges and demands by national- sized carriers place a heavy burden on smaller carriers by not being able to provide the customers with adequate service at a reasonable price.

NDNC opposes “favorable” deals between large carriers and requests that all carriers, no matter of size, receive the same roaming privileges. Large or

nationwide carriers should be required to make their networks available to all roaming partners with identical terms and conditions, or negotiate in “good-faith” on a fair market-based pricing.

II. Automatic Roaming Agreements

Section I notwithstanding, NDNC favors a “market-based” solution rather than mandatory agreements. If an automatic roaming rule were to be put in place, NDNC feels that this would create a disincentive for small or rural carriers to build out their networks. NDNC prefers the current regime of negotiated contracts over mandated automatic roaming agreements.

III. Technical Considerations

NDNC feels that roaming is affected due to the technical limitations of the digital network and handset technology. Currently, the network and technology is not at a sufficient level of advancement, and until this level is met, roaming will continue to be impacted. Not all carriers employ the same digital technology, and it would be a burden on small or rural carriers to continually upgrade their network. Small and rural carriers do not have the market influence to impact technical advancements.

Conclusion

Smaller carriers, like NDNC, rely on fair and reasonable roaming agreements with large wireless providers. The elimination of these agreements will result in rate increases, unjust competition and fewer choices for consumers. We opt for non-discriminatory roaming practices and for the elimination of anti-competitive

behavior. Nationwide roaming options are a vital part of our current and future development of services.

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Steven D. Lysne

November 18, 2005

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